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APRIL... THE START OF EVERYTHING!!

ARE YOU GLAD YOU ENTERED BENTEN!?
SO!?
I THINK IT'S NICE TO TEAM UP WITH YOU ONCE AGAIN.
WELL... AFTER HEARING THAT WHOLE STORY...
BENTEN HIGH SCHOOL FIRST YEAR STUDENT KAZAMI HAYATA
BENTEN HIGH SCHOOL FIRST YEAR STUDENT HAIMURA ENJIRO
IT'S THE REVIVAL OF THE GOLDEN BATTERY OF TOYOSAWA MIDDLE SCHOOL, HUH?
I'M NOT TOO SURE ABOUT MYSELF...
WELL, I GUESS AT LEAST YOU'LL BE TREATED LIKE THE ACE OF THE TEAM

T/N: IN BASEBALL THE TERMS "BATTERY" REFERS TO THE COMBINED EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PITCHER AND THE CATCHER AS A SET.

もじ
SORRY TO MAKE YOU WAIT!
BENTEN HIGH SCHOOL FIRST YEAR STUDENT KUHOU KOMADO
ちぃー
HMM..
TREATED LIKE THE ACE OF THE TEAM, RIGHT..
OH? YOU'RE THE PERFECT EXAMPLE OF FINE FEATHERS MAKE A FINE BIRD.
OH, IS THAT SO?
WELL, THERE ARE A LOT OF BEAUTIES ON BENTEN!
DIDN'T YOU READ THE PAMPHLET I SEND YOU!?
WASN'T BENTEN SUPPOSED TO BE A PRETTY TRADITIONAL SCHOOL!?
SHE HAS GOTTEN USED TO HIM ALREADY.
AND YOU RAISE BENTEN'S AVERAGE MARK OF SHITHEADS, ENJIRO!
ピロピロピロピロピロピロピロピロ
THAT'S NOT GOOD KOMADO-CHAN, THEN YOU LOWER THE AVERAGE MARK.

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ALRIGHT.
BENTEN HIGH SCHOOL
KANA-GAWA-KEN
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LET'S GO!
JOIN THE BASEBALL CLUB.
DREAMS... AMBITIONS... IT ALL STARTS FROM HERE!!
THE FIRST DAY!!
☆ジャンプ公式HPでも1～2話無料公開中!!
原作 小宮山健太
漫画 河田悠治
CHAPTER 3 : JOIN THE CLUB

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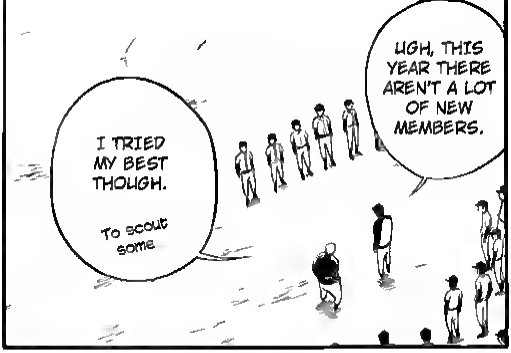

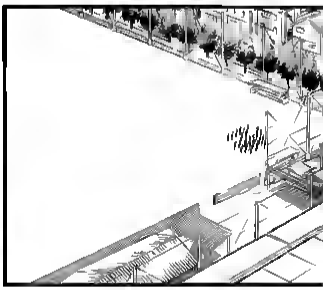

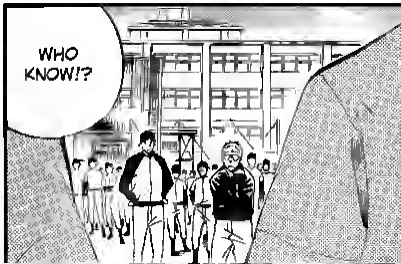

WELCOME TO BENTEN...
BOTH OF YOU
理事長室
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KUHOU DAIMON!!
I'M THE DIRECTOR,
HEY, INTRODUCE YOURSELF.
I'M KAZAMI HAYATA

HEY ENJIRO, HE'S THE DIRECTOR. HE'S LIKE YOUR BOSS
THE FIRST TIME YOU MEET YOUR SUPERIOR...
HAI-MURA ENJIRO !!
HI---
I'M YOUR GUAR-DIAN ANGEL,

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GET USED TO IT. PAPA — YOU HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO GET USED TO IT
I LOVE ITS COLOR
I HAVE TO COMPLI-MENT HIS NECKTIE!!

YOU HAVE ONLY ONE GOAL
.....
OF COURSE, YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO TALK ABOUT THIS TO ANYONE ELSE
TREAT IT AS A TOP SECRET MISSION
HAIMURA-KUN... SEEING THAT I'LL RECOMPENSE YOU FOR YOUR WORK, YOU ARE NO LONGER JUST A NORMAL AMATEUR BASEBALL PLAYER!!
WELL, LET'S GO INTO THE MAIN POINT.

TO MAKE BENTEN DOMINATE THE NATIONALS!!
THAT'S THE ONLY CONDITION TO CANCEL YOUR DEBT OF
ONE HUNDRED MILLION YEN!!
SO, HOW'S THE COMPETITION IN KANAGAWA!?
IT'S THE FIERCEST COMPETITIVE AREA. THERE'S THE SO-CALLED DEMONS OF KANAGAWA
BENTEN ALWAYS RANKS WITHIN THE BEST 16 OF THE PREFECTURE
THE BEST 8 SCHOOLS ARE
POWER-HOUSES WITH MONSTER-LIKE STRENGTH!!
楠部
水
弁天
相模大和郷
谷戸田
横浜翡翠
高台院

TO BREAK DOWN THAT WALL
ARE LIKE A WALL BENTEN CAN'T OVERCOME
TO BE FRANK... THE BEST B
FIRST OF ALL I WANT YOU...
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BUT I ASKED THE COACH TO TREAT YOU AS AN ACE PLAYER
THAT'S NOT ALL THERE IS TO IT...
I ALSO TRIED TO SCOUT OTHER PEOPLE... BUT IT DIDN'T WORK OUT

THERE ARE STILL SOME OTHER THINGS I NEED TO DISCUSS WITH YOU, BUT..... ANYWAY
ピクン

WHAT IF I HATE TO BE AN ACE!?
HEY, HEY, WHY DID YOU DECIDE THAT...
THAT'S NOT THE CASE THOUGH
THEN THERE'S NO PROBLEM, RIGHT...

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A WELCOME ...
!!
WHAT!?

HEY, KITA-ZATO!!
OH—
HEY, WHERE ARE YOU AIMING!?
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THAT HEARTY WELCOME BOUQUET...
HE HAS A GREAT PUNCH...

A...AH
I HAVE TO GO NOW...
I'M ALREADY VERY LATE FOR MY FIRST DAY OF CLUB ACTIVITIES!!
BECAUSE OF HIM, YOU CAN LEAVE IT IN THE VASE

WILL IT REALLY BE ALRIGHT LIKE THIS, PAPA!?
IS THIS ABOUT HIRING A HIGH SCHOOL AMATEUR BASEBALL PLAYER!?
HE IS FLAWLESS... WE DIDN'T HAVE ANY OTHER OPTIONS BUT TAKING HIM TO BEGIN WITH

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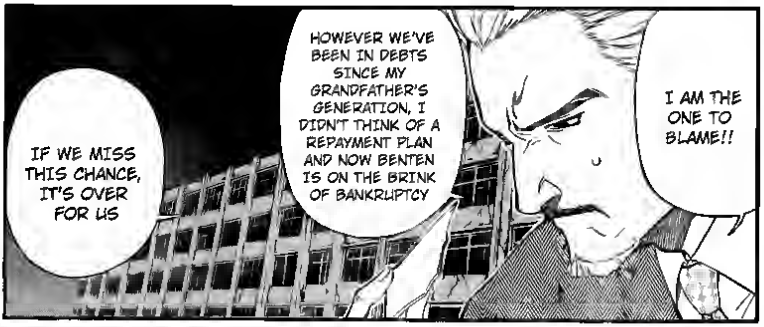
I AM THE ONE TO BLAME!!
HOWEVER WE'VE BEEN IN DEBTS SINCE MY GRANDFATHER'S GENERATION, I DIDN'T THINK OF A REPAYMENT PLAN AND NOW BENTEN IS ON THE BRINK OF BANKRUPTCY
IF WE MISS THIS CHANCE, IT'S OVER FOR US

I THINK IT'S UNFORGIVABLE WHAT I DO TO YOU AND THE BASEBALL CLUB
I WOULD BE GLAD IF I COULD END IT ALL BY HANGING MYSELF
ALL I CAN DO IS TO BET BENTEN'S FATE ON HAIMURA ENJIRO
BUT UNFORTUNATELY THAT WON'T CHANGE BENTEN'S SITUATION
THEN... I'M SURE EVERYTHING WILL WORK OUT
YES

SO, BEHAVE WELL!! AND DON'T USE SARCASM!
REMEMBER, DISCIPLINE IS STRICT IN THE BASEBALL CLUB
I DON'T, I...AM A POOR TALKER
LIAR!
キーン
LISTEN, ENJIRO
……
FINALLY...
YIPES, YOU'RE SCARING ME!!
With great manners
EXCUSE ME
ペコッ
HURRY, HURRY!!
NO, DON'T HURRY
YOU CAN'T JUST ENTER THE GROUNDS WITHOUT

ENJIRO
WE'RE BACK!!
ALRIGHT, THIS FEELS GREAT!!
THE COACH IS LOOKING FOR YOU!!
!!
HEY, YOU ARE HAIMURA, KAZAMI AND OUR ASPIRING MANAGER KUHOU, RIGHT!?
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SO
WHICH ONE OF YOU IS HAIMURA?
BASEBALL CLUB COACH MUBO SHOUBEI
THE GIRL IS KUHOU, THE DAUGHTER OF THE DIRECTOR... AND BY THE PROCESS OF ELIMINATION
THIS ONE HERE IS KAZAMI, HE ASPIRES TO BE A CATCHER
Hello
WHAT!?
YOU START IN THE RESERVE TEAM!!
... THAT'S IT
HAIMURA... I'LL SAY THIS STRAIGHT...

SURE ENOUGH, OUR TEAM DOESN'T HAVE A PITCHER GREAT ENOUGH TO BE CALLED OUR PILLAR YET...
BUT... I CAN'T USE HIM AS AN EXAMPLE FOR THE OTHER CLUB MEMBERS
HOLD ON A SEC. I WOULD LIKE YOU TO USE HIM AS AN IMMEDIATE ASSET
AH..
THE DIRECTOR ALSO TOLD ME TO TREAT HIM AS AN ACE
THEY ALL HAVE A LOT OF PRIDE
ATTACK!
MY LEGS FEEL DEAD!
COME AND GET ME!
THIS IS A PRIVATE SCHOOL WHERE BOYS GATHER WHO KEPT PLAYING BASEBALL NO MATTER THE CIRCUMSTANCES
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HE'S A GUY WHO'S IDENTITY IS A MYSTERY, YET BECAME THE FAVORITE OF THE DIRECTOR
IF I'D GIVE HIM ANY SPECIAL TREATMENT AND JUST HAND OVER THE ACE NUMBER...

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HEY... SHUT UP, KOMADO
I'M FINE WITH IT!!
BUT... IT'S ALMOST SUMMER
THE TEAM WOULD COLLAPSE
!!
THE ACE IS TO BE ACKNOWLEDGED BY THE WHOLE TEAM
AS THE BEST PLAYER!!
NO PERSON IN THIS WORLD WOULD WANT TO BE OFFERED
THE ACE NUMBER BY THE DIRECTOR AND HIS DAUGHTER!!
1
BECAUSE THEN IT WOULD JUST BE A MERE NUMBER
NO ONE WOULD READ IT AS "ACE"

LOOKS LIKE HE UNDER-STANDS...
ALRIGHT!!

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GOT IT
WELL THEN, TEACH US HOW TO IMPROVE
GO FOR IT

WILL LIKELY BE AVOIDED BY THE UPPER-CLASSMAN...
A ROOKIE THAT ENTERS WITH TOO MUCH SHOW

HMM, HAIMURA ...

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EVENTUALLY EVEN YOU'LL AGREE THIS WAS THE RIGHT CHOICE...
ALL THE MORE BECAUSE HE'S THE FAVORITE OF THE DIRECTOR.
IF YOU AIM TO BE THE ACE.
HAIMURA!!
YOU'LL HAVE TO CONVINCE EVERYONE WITH YOU OWN STRENGTH.
HE WOULD BE KILLED WITH KINDNESS.

IT COULD TAKE YOU ONE OR TWO YEARS...
WELL... DO YOUR BES---
!?
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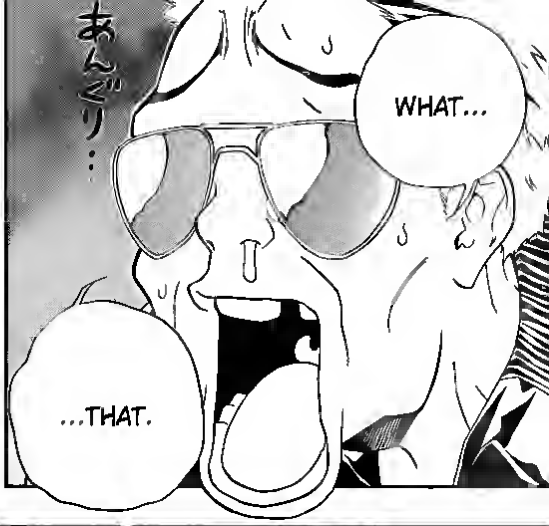

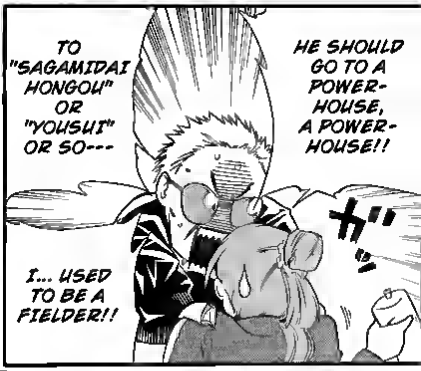

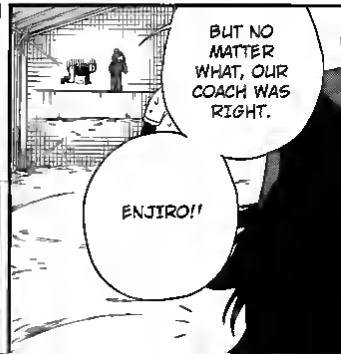

ISN'T THAT JUST TODAY'S GOAL!?
YOU'RE MISTAKEN...
…ビッ
HA HA...
YOU'RE JUST A HIRED MERCENARY AFTER ALL.
AREN'T YOU THE ONE WHO'S MISTAKEN!? SEEING THAT YOU'LL BE QUITTING THE BASEBALL CLUB TODAY.

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SMOKEY B.B.

by Kenta KOMIYAMA

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CREDITS

TRANSLATION	RIKU
CLEANER	ERIPHO
TYPESETTER	XAN
PROOFREADER	SALVIO
QUALITY CHECK	ERIPHO

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